



**Gofynner am/  
Please ask for:** Information Governance  
and Compliance

**Tel:** 01443232355

**E-bost/E-mail:** InformationGovernance@southwales-fire.gov.uk

**Our ref:** IG002385

**Dyddiad/Date:** 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023

## RE: Request for Information held by SWFRS.

Your request ref: **IG002385** has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

### You asked us:

Please supply me with data relating to fires on balconies on residential buildings in your area, as follows;

How many fires involving balconies occurred in total between 1st August 2022 and 31st July 2023?

In the same period, how many fires occurred where balconies were found to have contributed to the spread of the fire across the external walls?

Please provide data on the causes of any fires that started on balconies in the period (ie; barbecue, discarded cigarette, electrical appliance fault, etc) and please provide the number of occurrences for each cause.

If your incident recording system does not include "balcony" as a recorded location, could you please perform a search on free text fields in your database for the term, as I have found in the past that this often returns useable data.

### Our response:

**Scope:** Incidents attended by SWFRS from 01/08/2022 to 31/07/2023 recorded on the Incident Recording System (IRS).

We do not specifically list balconies on our list of locations where a fire starts – a search was carried out to identify all incidents where the word 'balcony' appeared.

**Data:** Incident report based on data extracted from SWFRS IRS on 14/08/2023 – data may be subject to change pending validation of IRS incident records.

Report criteria: Incident date = 01/08/2022 to 31/07/2023, Incident category = Fire, Text search = 'Balcony'



## REPORT AND STATISTICS

3 fires involving balconies occurred between 01/08/2022 – 31/07/2023.

Cause	Total
Smoking related - careless disposal of smoking materials	3

We are not able to respond to the query regarding fire spread due to balconies as our Information Recording System does not record this information.

Pencadlys Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub De Cymru,  
Parc Busnes Forest View, Llantrisant, Pont-y-clun, CF72 8LX.

Ffôn 01443 232000 • Ffacs 01443 232180  
[www.decymru-tan.gov.uk](http://www.decymru-tan.gov.uk)

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y gymraeg a'r saesneg - byddwn yn ymateb yn gyfartal i'r ddau ac yn ateb yn eich dewis iaith heb oedi.

**CODI YMWYBYDDIAETH - LLEIHAU PERYGL**

South Wales Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters,  
Forest View Business Park, Llantrisant, Pontyclun, CF72 8LX.

Telephone 01443 232000 • Fax 01443 232180  
[www.southwales-fire.gov.uk](http://www.southwales-fire.gov.uk)

We welcome correspondence in Welsh and English - we will respond equally to both and will reply in your language of choice without delay.

**RAISING AWARENESS - REDUCING RISK**



If you have any queries regarding your information request, please contact us at [InformationGovernance@southwales-fire.gov.uk](mailto:InformationGovernance@southwales-fire.gov.uk) quoting the reference number above in any future communication.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling or outcome of your information request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. An internal review will consider whether the handling or outcome of your request was appropriate, in line with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and/or the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

Internal review requests should be submitted to the Information Governance & Compliance Officer. You can submit a request by e-mail or letter to:

- **Email:** [InformationGovernance@southwales-fire@gov.uk](mailto:InformationGovernance@southwales-fire@gov.uk)
- **Mail:** Information Governance & Compliance Officer, South Wales Fire and Rescue Services HQ, Forest View Business Park, Llantrisant, CF72 8LX

Internal reviews will be conducted by the Senior Information Risk Owner, or their deputy. We aim to respond within 20 working days of the receipt of the request for an internal review.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the review, then you may seek a review by the Information Commissioner's Office ("ICO"), which has the powers to uphold or overturn the decision. Please see ICO contact information below. South Wales Fire and Rescue Service will abide by the decisions of the ICO unless it considers itself to have grounds for an appeal to the First-Tier Tribunal (Information Rights).

- **Website:** <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/>
- **Email:** [icocasework@ico.org.uk](mailto:icocasework@ico.org.uk)
- **Mail:** Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.
- **Telephone:** 0303123113

Please be aware that the ICO will be unlikely to accept a complaint until you have first been through our internal complaint's procedure first.

Yours Faithfully,

**Information Governance and Compliance**  
[InformationGovernance@southwales-fire@gov.uk](mailto:InformationGovernance@southwales-fire@gov.uk)

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